

THE MODEL A TOOLBOX

by Colin Lawson

STEERING BOX LUBRICATION

A steering shaft lubricator fitting appeared in 1928 Service Bulletins September (USA page 281), and November (Canada page 56) to improve the sector shaft lubrication and to slow the flow of oil out the shaft end. The reservoir is filled with 600W oil, not grease. The grease fitting shown was replaced by a plug in October 1929 SB pg 383 so that mechanics would not be tempted to install grease in the unit. This can also be added to later Gemmer assemblies.

NEW LUBRICATOR FITTING IN STEERING GEAR HOUSING

The drilled hole in the steering sector shaft, through which the lubricant in the steering gear housing was carried to the sector shaft bushings, has been discontinued. Sector shaft bushings are now lubricated by means of a lubricator fitting placed in the steering gear housing. (See A, Fig. 570.) Lubricant should be forced into this fitting every 2,000 miles.

Should an instance arise where it is necessary to install the present design sector in an old steering gear assembly, it will be necessary to install a lubricator fitting in the housing. This is done by drilling a $21/64$ " hole $2-3/32$ " back from center line of flange where housing is bolted to frame. (See Fig. 571.) The hole should be drilled through housing and sector bushing and then tapped with a standard $1/8$ " pipe tap. When tapping the hole, do not tap too deep. The hole should be tapped just deep enough so that when the lubricator fitting is screwed down tightly approximately two threads on the fitting will remain above the surface of the housing. (See Fig. 571.)

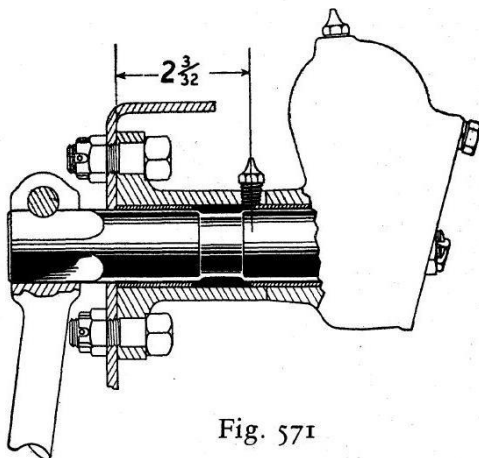


Fig. 571

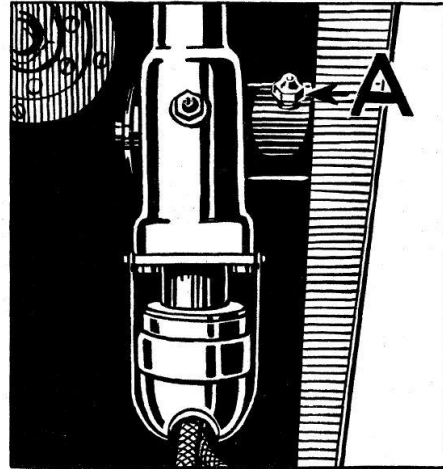


Fig. 570

LUBRICATOR FITTING ON STEERING GEAR CHANGED TO PLUG

To eliminate the possibility of mechanics putting grease instead of gear lubricant in the steering gear, the Zerk fitting has been replaced with a pipe plug (see Fig. 776).

Never put grease in the steering gear. Complaints of hard steering can invariably be traced to that source. Use gear lubricant only in the steering gear—the same lubricant that is used in the axle and transmission.

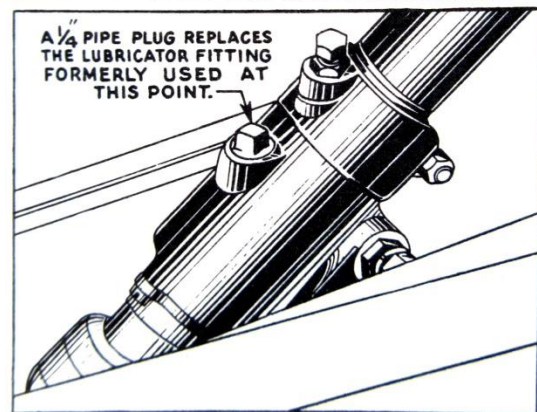


Fig. 776

SB October 1929 USA shows the Gemmer steering box, this note and illustration was not shown in the Canada SB.



Steering Gear Lubrication Some owners are now using a grease developed by John Deere for use in corn harvest machines, Corn Head Grease. The grease turns to semi liquid when warm and returns to light grease when cold, works well in the Model A Steering Box since it flows into the teeth when needed with reduced oil seepage when cool. It is available from John Deere dealers.